

chronicler that the apprentices took no small part in the disturbance.<sup>1</sup> On this occasion, however, the responsible governors of the city had been less opposed to the rioting than they proved in 1381. They had themselves led the attack on Lord Percy's house to release the prisoner, in itself a perfectly justifiable action, but the beginning of all the more questionable proceedings of the mob that day. It was not, therefore, without reason that their plea of innocence was considered insufficient. The Mayor and Sheriffs were deprived of their posts, but the city was allowed at once to elect new officers in their place. The protest of the London mob had so far succeeded that the ministers did not again attempt to deprive the city of the right to elect its own rulers. The new Mayor whom they chose was Sir Nicolas Brembre, a strong opponent of John of Gaunt. The Duke further required, by way of reparation for the reversal of his arms m. Cheapside, that a pillar to support them should be erected there in marble \* well and comely metalled to continue for all time.' To this the citizens would not agree, but the new officers consented to organise, in honour of the Duke, a procession to St. Paul's bearing tapers of wax. The commonalty, however, made no offering towards the candles and took no part in the solemnity. The Duke was angry at the paltriness of the proceedings, which, there is reason to suspect, the Londoners made purposely ridiculous. Here the quarrel rested till the death of the King.<sup>5\*</sup>

The spring months of '77 passed away without any stirring events. The supremacy of the Duke and those who now belonged to his party was secure, but secure only so long as the King lived. John of Gaunt made the most of his opportunity while it lasted. In February he induced his father to revive for his benefit the Jura Regalia of the County Palatine of Lancaster, which had lapsed to the Crown on the death of the last Duke. The King's Council had long ago declared that these great privileges and revenues could not be held by a subject without \* great loss and disinheritance of the King.' Yet Edward now gave them back to the powerful rival whose greatness endangered young BiehardV

<sup>1</sup> Knigliton, ii. 336-4J.  
lxix.

\* *Chron. Ang.*, 1S1-4, Ixviii-